Between the Lines

**The Christian Layman's Information Service—
Condensed, Non-Denominational**

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In addition to these sources of information, Mr. Wells is a member of the Academy of Political Science, the National Council for Foreign Affairs, the American Academy of Political and Social Science, the Foreign Policy Association and other authoritative, highly regarded research groups in the fields of current history and social sciences whose reports are important sources of information which seldom reach the average citizen.

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Big Business and the Church

As our readers are aware, a serious political-religious disturbance occurred last month, stirred up by the publicity of the legal activities of John Foster Dulles, prominent associate of candidate Dewey and an official spokesman for the Federal Council of Churches. The latter relationship makes the matter one of concern to every sincere and responsible Christian. The charges were that Dulles, as a top-flight international lawyer, has represented many great industrial concerns that were either bound to the Axis (in some instances still representing them) or were pro-Axis in their dealings, and that he represented large utilities and companies which were later proven guilty of illegal and fraudulent practices. That these accusations are true stands without challenge; their significance remains a matter of opinion.

Any great lawyer is sought for by all kinds of clients. Does a great criminal lawyer associated with the defense in murder cases become identified in character with the criminals he defends? That attitude represents one viewpoint, but it does not erase the stigma which has so unfortunately fallen upon the Federal Council of Churches. In the same manner these revelations were a blow to the Dewey campaign. The issue goes deeper than that. Painful as it is, we must face the fact that the larger religious denominations, their missionary boards, their pension societies, are as yet of necessity bound to big business interests in many ways through invested funds which support

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WAR EXPOSES MAN'S LIMITATIONS and his need for divine help. A fellow alone in a fox hole or on a raft doesn't do any theological theorizing; God's help there is real. It is either a miracle or nothing. Isn't that what Christianity stands for—the miracle of what happens to a man and his world when God is present? And when we have lost that sense of the miraculous, haven't we lost everything Christianity can offer?

X-Ray and Forecast

Peace in Europe

While all official publicity is aimed at creating the expectation that the European war will last into the spring of 1945, inside opinions and plans of Washington military leaders underscore a big Siegfried Line break-through this fall to fan out swiftly over Germany, much as American thrusts finally did in France. Peace is not expected to come to Europe this year, however, but, following a Nazi collapse, a period of widespread confusion and political chaos that will hold American manpower nailed down in Europe for much of next year.

Pearl Harbor Secrets

As you may have guessed by the press reports, the hottest items behind the scenes in Washington now are the Army and Navy reports of their parallel investigations of the Pearl Harbor disaster. These reports so far are being kept strictly secret, and the public does not realize that even the Republicans have not pushed demands for the release of the reports before election, indicating the existence of damaging evidence against high Republican officials in the present administration as well as against New Dealers. If made public, the investigations would blow the whole political picture sky high, injuring both parties and doing no good politically to anyone. A semblance of a report wearing a pleasant mask and covered with plenty of whitewash will likely be given to the public, but it is very doubtful if the truth will be known until after the war, for the whole thing is too upsetting for public consumption while the conflict continues. Keep in mind, however, that, as any clarification of the Pearl Harbor disaster would have to lead back to Churchill-Roosevelt conversations and plans during 1939, '40 and '41, (Between the Lines, October 8, 1944, July 3, 1944), the pattern of inquiry and responsibility is much larger than just what went on between Washington and Hawaii in the fall of 1941.

Slave Labor Murder

The whole world will be shocked when the truth finally seeps out about the ghastly treatment by the Nazis of the vast slave labor group in Germany. Reports from Germany tell of unbelievable massacres of these helpless hordes by the frantic Nazis who, fear-

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Big Business and the Church

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religious enterprises at home and abroad. The House of Morgan banks are intimately associated with Episcopalian structure. For years the Baptist enterprises were largely underwritten by Rockefeller funds—a situation that no longer prevails except in indirect ways. Mellon interests and other great money dynasties have their "church affiliations" and thus bear their weight of influence upon the religious institutionalism of America. As a result we have in every national denominational committee or board laymen, such as Mr. Dulles, or church dignitaries who assume the mantle of defense for big business, praising the virtues (of which there are many) and glossing over the evils (of which there are also many) of the large American fortunes.

But here is the significant thing to watch: Great fortunes are being liquidated by taxes, and big industries are being dehumanized into vast impersonal monopolies. The churches are therefore gradually losing the support and escaping the domination of these fortunes. *But will the financial burden that has been carried by large personal fortunes be accepted by the average church member in terms of large personal giving? Thousands of progressive minded laymen want the church free from big business dictation and such reproach as the Dulles episode cast upon Protestantism. But will we, as laymen, accept the larger bond of financial support and leadership falling to our hands as the church is no longer used to brace the structure of an economic system that is falling away into new forms?* In that question to a large extent rests the future of the church in America.

Tolerance and California

A scathing indictment of racial intolerance was made by one of America's leading educators, Robert G. Sproul, president of the University of California, who, speaking before a group of church, civic and labor leaders in Los Angeles recently, denounced the opposition being voiced in many parts of the country to the return of Japanese-American evacuees to the West Coast.

Declaring that the dream of America will have died when a man's right to live in a community is determined solely by the color of his skin, Dr. Sproul said: "We believe with fervor that whenever and wherever constitutional guarantees are violated in the treatment of a minority, however unpopular and helpless, the whole fabric of American government is weakened. Every such violation, he pointed out, sets up a precedent which later works against

X-Ray and Forecast

(*Continued from first page*)

ing the uprising of the millions, are apparently endeavoring to make good their boast, "If we go down, we'll take the world with us." It is to be hoped that these current reports are exaggerated, but it seems in this instance we are justified in believing the worst.

We must continue to pray that the threat of chemical warfare, which has also been on the Nazi agenda, may not be fulfilled.

Lion and Bear

Although official announcements from London and Washington report optimistically the Churchill-Stalin ten-day conference in Moscow, official circles behind the scenes frankly admit that Churchill made little, if any, progress with Stalin in solving the problem of British-Russian relations, particularly in the Balkans and in Poland. Churchill wanted to extend the participation of British arms with the Russians on the Balkan front, but Stalin forbids it and Roosevelt also has refused to give Churchill support in this. The British are hugging tightly their hold on Greece and Albania,—in fact every advantage they can gain along the eastern Mediterranean,—so that they may be in a position to guard the Mediterranean Empire life line. But Churchill has been roundly defeated in the Balkans, which means the loss of control over millions in investments in that area, although the news is still being suppressed. The Russians are not allowing British and American oil men even to visit their former rich holdings in the Ploesti oil fields of Rumania.

British Control in Greece

In Greece a severe British control is being kept over all unruly factions. Many Greeks, especially the trade unions and workers groups, are almost as anti-British as anti-German, but British guns are in the streets to put down disorder, and that means any move toward setting up a revolutionary government and kicking out the aristocratic cliques associated with the old monarchy which London officials have been trying to cram down Greek throats. Stalin is keeping hands off in Greece, but when British forces tried to maneuver for the same protection of their interests in Yugoslavia, Stalin cracked down sharply and the Russian Army swept further south.

As we advised our readers months ago, watch that Russian Army if you want to see the shape of post-war Europe. At that time Russian forces were pressing against Poland; since then the attack was held stationary while Russian armed might swept out over the Baltic states, through the Balkans and today is in a position to extend Soviet control far and wide where formerly London, Wall Street and Paris banks controlled the economic and political life of the people.

Cigarettes and the Heart

Cigarettes can be harmful to persons suffering from a disease of the small blood vessels lying near the surface of the body or from artery injury. Smoking tests were made recently at the Mayo Clinic on physicians and technicians, both men and women. The subjects were young and in good health, but, after smoking two standard brand cigarettes, the electrocardiograms recorded changes in heart action; the basal metabolic rate, pulse rate and blood pressure increased materially; and the temperature of toes and fingers decreased. All symptoms disappeared within five to fifteen minutes after smoking, but the toe and finger temperatures did not rise for half an hour or more. Many physical conditions commonly exist where these heart reactions could be harmful and destructive.

The scientists are warning military personnel that a cigarette given to a wounded soldier may cause irreparable damage if an artery has been injured since cigarette smoking in a person sensitive to tobacco may cause constriction of blood vessels.

In line with these findings, Harvard University research men report that the keen eyesight needed by night fliers is impaired by cigarette smoke.

Win, Place or Show

Make a list of the war-time shortages which are putting the grey in your hair: Manpower, gasoline, rubber, paper, travel accommodations, telegraph and telephone service . . .

Now listen to the way the horse racing rackets get around these problems. In an article written for the liberal monthly, Common Sense, Walter MacDonald, New York journalist, states that there is no dearth of manpower at the race tracks. Racing is said at one time to have employed 260,000 men as hostlers, trainers, jockeys, mutuel clerks, ushers and guards. Besides these gentlemen there are those employed by racing newspapers or engaged in the illegal bookmaking business. Add to these the hangers-on who drift from track to track with no visible way of earning a living other than by making lucky bets. War Manpower Commission officials found that absenteeism in war plants situated near race tracks has run consistently higher than the national average.

Service men, home on furlough, are

ric of American government is weakened. Every such violation, he pointed out, sets up a precedent which later works against another minority and inevitably destroys the principles on which the nation is founded—the dignity and worth of the human individual.

And the failure of the Japanese Exclusion Association of California to get enough signatures on a petition to put a proposal for stricter alien land laws on the state's November ballot indicates that a spirit of tolerance is gradually arising from Christian sources and is changing the overall atmosphere on the West Coast.

The present alien land law prohibits the ownership of any land in California, or leasing of agricultural land, by anyone ineligible for United States citizenship, although commercial, industrial and residential properties may be leased. This means that Japanese aliens cannot own land or lease farms, but the Japanese Exclusion Association wished to intensify the law to prevent Japanese from owning or leasing *any* kind of property in California and from fishing off shore. Such an extension of the existing law would make it impossible for persons of Japanese descent to earn even a subsistance livelihood in California.

This attempt to bar Japanese from the state through economic sanctions failed because the sponsors of the move could not get more than 77,875 of the 178,000 names necessary to secure a vote on the measure. Not only was there the big shortage of signatures, but, said an Association spokesman, "Many who should be interested just would not contribute" toward the expenses of the campaign.

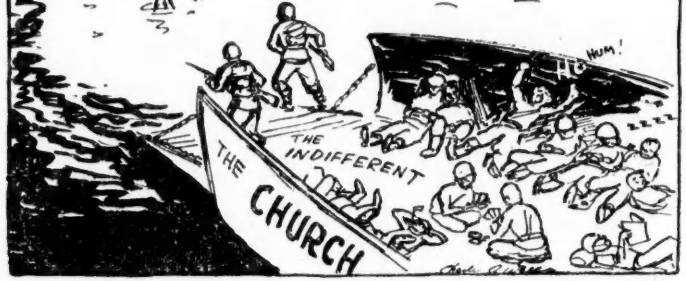
The point of this occurrence seems to be that, despite the rabid oratory and columns of print flooding out from the West Coast against Japanese-Americans, Californians as a whole do not feel as strongly on the subject as we may have been led to believe.

Boston Hoodlums

Reports from the Boston area indicate that racial antagonisms are rising to a new pitch. Anti-semitism is rife; Jewish children are intercepted on the streets and severely beaten, their parents are threatened and insulted without provocation.

Negroes are also subject to violence and maltreatment. The slightest infringement of the law means vicious beatings at the hands of the police.

Gangs of hoodlums roam the streets—in the very shadow of Harvard—armed with iron pipe, knives and similar weapons. They openly admit that they are out to molest "niggers and Jews."



JUST SUPPOSE

What would happen if a landing force drew up to establish a beach head and, as the commanders jumped into the surf to lead the way, only a few of their men had the energy and loyalty to follow? What kind of a report would come from such an operation? Yet in almost every community today there is desperate need for beach heads to be established against the evils of selfishness, greed, vice, intemperance, and juvenile delinquency. But when our spiritual leaders call, how few have the loyalty and energy to follow. The miracle of the Church is how much it has accomplished under conditions that would bring complete defeat in any other field of endeavor.

Upheaval in France and Spain

Apparently every effort is still being made to suppress the truth concerning the situation in France. Perhaps the reason can be found in the fact that American investments in pre-war France totalled about $300,000,000, chiefly in oil refineries, automobiles and accessories, farm machinery, banking, and insurance. These groups formerly threw their influence in Washington in support of Vichy, hoping to save their privileges in France; and they are, of course, opposed to the social and economic program de Gaulle is being forced to inaugurate by the aroused, determined French population which will not permit the old systems of Europe's past to be fastened on them again. Horror fell on London and Wall Street when news came of France's intentions to socialize industry, banks, railroads and mines. It is not yet known how far the process has been carried out. Washington and London have tried to use Catholic influence to curb these socialistic trends (remember the Pope's speech defending private property after he had entertained numerous dignitaries from London and Washington?) but these efforts backfired.

This anti-clerical backfire has also seriously affected the unstable situation in Spain where a Catholic aristocracy with the fascist Franco are sitting on a very dangerous volcano. When the Nazi collapse and the full effects of France's swing to the left are felt, Spain may well have a full-scale revolution. This time it will not be a civil war, but a swift violent revolution with Franco and the fascists put out completely. The only thing that is holding it back now is the skilful support of the most able Pope that Catholics have had in many generations, plus British guns and British money which have openly supported Franco since Churchill's bold blessing of the enemies of democracy in Spain a few months ago.

According to Bernard Johnpoll, an editorial in the official newspaper of Spain's totalitarian party, the Falange de Oviedo, stated that Spain is not materially concerned with who wins the war in Europe. Spanish republicans believe that Churchill and Roosevelt will oust Franco, but fascists are convinced that Britain and America will do business with and back the Franco government. "They [the British and American governments] are no more pro-red (democratic) than we: Mr. Churchill has called our enemies in Britain vicious people. He is our friend."

Possibly British championing of the Franco government arises from the fact that British industrialists have wide holdings in Spain. Barcelona Traction, Light and Power Company, which earned a 300% profit last year, has no Spanish investors: the British own 91 per cent of the utility, the Dutch 3 per cent and the Americans 3 per cent.

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run consistently higher than the national average.

Service men, home on furlough, are granted additional gasoline rations of a gallon a day. But, Mr. MacDonald says, "the spectacle of thousands of cars from every state in the Union at the Hialeah track in Miami last winter was one to make the gorge rise. There was no way for such crowds to get to that track except by using black market gas, yet Hialeah had one of its greatest seasons, and several 'million dollar days' for the first time in its history."

Thousands of tons of paper are used by racing papers and tip sheets. But the tracks think they are aiding the waste paper drive by putting up bins for salvaging torn race tickets and outdated programs!

Civilians are constantly told not to travel, to stay home. Servicemen spend, and sometimes waste, valuable furlough hours in overcrowded trains, but hundreds of horse cars are available to the racing trade. These cars get attached to the fast passenger trains. To quote Mr. MacDonald again, "Last fall one stable alone shipped its string of horses—more than 50 at times—from New York, at the close of the season there, first to Maryland, then to Kentucky, finally to Florida for the winter. Then in the spring the trek was reversed, with a trip to Chicago on the side. This fall the cycle will start again."

Telegraph companies rule out congratulatory messages but daily transmit thousands of messages containing race track information. At one New York track, Western Union set up nine special wires for the racing public.

The average citizen is urged to make long distance telephone calls only when vitally necessary, only at certain hours of the day, and are reminded that the calls must be made brief. New telephone installations are markedly few, with thousands of families on a waiting list for telephones, and business firms unable to obtain needed facilities. "But," said Mr. MacDonald, "somehow the horse gamblers get phones. . . . The load placed on the telephone lines of the nation daily between noon and six p.m. by calls to bookmakers placing bets, and follow-up calls, is tremendous." A leased telephone wire at a New York track was furnished the Daily Racing Form to carry information regarding racing entries, scratches and results.

The racing interests don't seem to feel the shortages the way you do, do they?

Moving Spotlight

China Champions India

Reports have been suppressed concerning a letter written to President Roosevelt by Chiang Kai-shek urging Roosevelt to bring pressure on Britain for India's freedom. Excerpts from the letter, however, have been circulated in a limited way in official circles. Chiang made it clear that the major stumbling block in the war against Japan was Britain's imperialism, and he urged that America uphold democratic principles. He wrote: "The war aims of the United Nations and our common interests make it impossible for me to remain silent. An ancient Chinese proverb says: 'Good medicine, though bitter, cures one's illness; words of sincere advice, though unpleasant, should guide one's conduct.' I sincerely hope that Britain will magnanimously and resolutely accept my words of disinterested advice, however unpleasant they may be, and believe they are voiced in the common interests of the United Nations."

No Politics

Did you know that American service men in India are not allowed to discuss politics and that our officials give full cooperation to the British to prevent any part of the Indian plea for freedom from reaching our Indian forces?

Good Behavior

Reports from newsmen in the Balkans indicate that the Russian Army's behavior in Rumania has been excellent; it has surpassed all expectations. Considering the crimes and atrocities perpetrated by Rumanian troops against the populations of the Ukraine and Crimea, observers are amazed by the Soviet soldiers' self-control. While advancing from the Volga to Rumania, the Russian troops passed through their home towns where some of them found that their families had been murdered, all their possessions carried off and their homes destroyed by Rumanian troops. Strict discipline backed by Stalin's intentions of control in the Balkans shine through this remarkable report.

Stalin is doing everything possible to win the confidence and goodwill of Rumanians. He has allowed many former pro-Nazi officials to retain their positions, he is secretly assisting ex-King Carol to reestablish his place in the homeland (a deal he snatched right out from under Churchill's hands), and is promising Rumanians full control of their oil (which in the past has been a British-American monopoly) and other resources. It isn't hard to fit this into the Balkan post-war pattern.

Same Old Horse

Brigadier General H. C. Holridge, recently retired commander of the Adjutant General School of Fort Washington, Md., has been making statements that have caused disturbances in high official circles. Soldiers are supposed to keep their mouths shut and follow the official propaganda line, but with his retirement the General has been exercising the civilian's right of free speech. In a recent speech favoring the Socialist Party viewpoint, he said:

"In electing Dewey, instead of Roosevelt, you don't change horses in the middle of the stream, you merely change jockeys of the same old capitalistic horse, both competing for the privilege of leading the country into fascism."

These are strong words, and while we may not accept the General's Socialist thesis we must admit he has been in a position to observe the inside workings of this country's political and military structure.

Federal Care

The Emergency, Maternal and Infant Care program of the Federal government's Children's Bureau will have cared for about 500,000 GI babies this year. This war-time institutional effort to meet the emergencies soldiers and their young wives so often face will have spent 29 millions of dollars in 1944.

Only wives and children of the four lowest pay grades of enlisted men are entitled to receive this free medical, nursing and hospital care. However, medical associations have been denouncing the E.M.I.C. as socialistic and calling it a step towards socialized medicine—which is sure fire when you realize that millions of service men will have had this personal contact with government-administered medical service. It is another angle of the development in this country of at least "organized" medicine if not "socialized" medicine—a subject upon which many sincere Christian laymen are divided but upon the developments of which we should all keep well-informed.

Tokyo Propagandists

Remember the picture in Life showing a young lady looking at a skull—supposedly a Japanese skull—sent as a souvenir from her soldier friend? What would our propagandists do if Japanese magazines played up the skulls of American boys being received as souvenirs by young ladies in Japan? Well, that is exactly what the Tokyo propagandists are doing. They are calling Americans barbarians, savages, depraved, and similar epithets which also appear constantly in the *anti-Japanese* propaganda in *this* country. Apply this same test to the now familiar story of the paper knife, made out of Japanese shin bone, sent President Roosevelt and you'll see why war makes savages of us all.

Confidential Report on Italy

George Baldanzi, American labor official who has just returned from Italy, has been compelled to hush-hush his reports on the deplorable conditions in Italy until after election because they would be a telling slap at the administration. But to select groups of CIO officials he has reported the existence of starvation, complete devastation of town and farm, a rampant black market, prostitution everywhere with special alertness for the GI's dollar, channels of distribution of civilian goods in the hands of former fascist officials under Allied supervision, disarming of the Italian partisans, wages below those formerly paid by either fascists or Nazis, and nowhere in view the prospect of an Allied policy in Italy which will help to relieve the horror of life after one year of Allied occupation.

Baldanzi found American officials unable to explain the low wage policy. He stated that it was the common impression among Italians that Italy was deliberately being reduced to the status of an English colony, with American support and blessing. At first the Italians regarded with warmth and confidence the American "liberators," but they are becoming increasingly sullen and resentful. All this that London-Wall Street investments in Italy may not be disturbed!

X-Ray and Forecast

(*Continued from middle page*)

Campaign Score

We have had many inquiries from readers of strong political sentiments asking why we have not taken a definite stand on the current election. We have had strong letters from Christian laymen, both Democrats and Republicans, insisting that we are not consistent unless we take a stand that fits *their* viewpoint—which proves we wouldn't be consistent if we did! Our job is to report to you significant trends and facts that are important but difficult for the busy layman to get his hands on; we expect that that layman *will do his own thinking*. However, we keep a wonderful score card along this line. We check the irate letters from Democrats and Republicans, and, when approximately the same number of letters arrive from both sides, we know we are keeping in the middle of the road!

International Finance

Very little is being allowed to reach the public about the decisive struggle being waged behind the scenes over the financial plans drawn up at Bretton Woods. Big bankers in America are quietly but firmly fighting the idea of government control of international finance. The Chase National Bank, Morgan interests and National City Bank of New York are leading in this unheralded fight and their partners, the big banking houses of London, are also making attacks against the new international finance set up from the stand point of their interest in maintaining the old sterling bloc monopolies—so dear to the heart of London bankers—and special trade preferences which have long been a part of Empire practice. In the meantime, Russia sits on the sidelines waiting for developments. Control of banking on the part of international representatives of the various governments suits Russia to a T for she has absolute governmental control of her own national finance. But if a return to the old time gold monopoly comes back again, it is just another lump of sugar in Russian tea, for they have plenty of gold in Siberia which can be dug as easily as agates. These facts, together with the inevitable restoration and great expansion of Soviet industry and production, are the elements behind the scenes which are weighted with incalcuable influence.

Religious Spheres in Europe

In many little but stinging thrusts, the Moscow government continues to let it be known that it is not in favor of any Roman Catholic priority to religious favor in eastern Europe or any other area where Russian interests are involved. The Russian spokesmen are issuing statements linking the Vatican with responsibility for the Nazi-fascist regimes. These continued barbed criticisms of the Vatican have completely wrecked the rapprochement with Moscow Roosevelt is known to have been urging upon the Pope. It is also noticeable that Catholic spokesmen in America are not missing a chance for a well-placed shot at the Moscow regime. Thus, with the restoration of the Greek Orthodox Church in Russia, the religious divisions in Europe are quite likely to be carried over into the post-war world much as they were in the past.

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